Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 OES-03

OIC-02 ERDA-05 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INT-05 L-02 NSC-05

PM-03 SAM-01 SS-15 STR-01 FEA-01 /119 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2131

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

CONFIDENTIAL ALGIERS 0740

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJ: ALGERIAN CONTACTS WITH OECD SECRETARIAT

REF: OECD PARIS 0694

1. WOULD NOT PRESUME TO ADVISE OECD SECRETARIAT WHAT IT SHOULD DO ABOUT CONTACTS WITH ALGERIANS, BUT SUSPECT ALGERIAN APPROACH REPORTED REFTEL IS JUST WHAT IT PRETENDS TO BE. ALGERIANS HAVE BEEN HAVING TROUBLE WITH STATISTICS, BOTH HOME-PRODUCED AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION-PRODUCED. THEY QUITE BITTER, FOR INSTANCE, ABOUT INACCURATE INFORMATION THEY GOT FROM IBRD LAST YEAR, ON BASIS WHICH THEY MADE SERIOUS MISCALCULATION REGARDING THEIR FINANCIAL POSITION.

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2. LETTING ALGERIANS SEE OECD DATA WOULD, OF COURSE, GIVE THEM OPPORTUNITY PREPARE COUNTER ARGUMENTS. IT MIGHT ALSO RESULT IN CORRECTION ERRORS ON BOTH SIDES, HOWEVER. IF OECD DATA RELIABLE AND THOROUGH, WOULD BE NO HARM IN LETTING ALGERIANS SEE THEM. IF WEAK AND UNRELIABLE WOULD BE RISKY.

3.WITH REGARD OPEC ROLE, ALGERIANS APPARENTLY ONLY MEMBER WITH ENOUGH MOXIE TO RAISE ISSUE WITH OECD. PROVIDING THAT AGENCY READY SHARE DATA WITH OTHER OPEC MEMBERS, SEE NO REASON WHY SHOULD NOT DO SO WITH ALGERIA.

4. GHOZALI AND AI LAOUSSINE BOTH AMERICAN-EDUCATED AND VERY BRIGHT. OECD SECRETARIAT SHOULD HAVE WITS ABOUT IT IF IN CONTACT WITH THEM.PARKER

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